THE

Theatrical Observer;

AND

Daily Bills of the Play.

"Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice."—*Othello.*

No. 5737. *Tuesday, May* 12, 1840. *Price* 1*d.*

"The Play s the thing."—Ask for *Thomas's Observer.*

COVENT GARDEN THEATRE.

LAST night, being the occasion of Madame Vestris's Benefit, this Theatre was crowded by persons anxious to pay their tribute of respect to this charming actress. The performances consisted of Mrs. Cowley's *Belle's Stratagem,* and *The Sleeping Beauty in the Wood.*

General Burgoyne's Opera of *The Lord of the Manor* will be revived on Monday next at this Theatre, very strongly cast, to be followed by *The Sleeping Beauty in the Wood,* the entertainments being for the Benefit of Mr. W. Farren.

HAY-MARKET THEATRE.

YESTERDAY evening, *The Lady of Lyons, The Irish Attorney,* and *Hobbs, Dobbs, and Stubbs,* were performed here, and proved very attractive.

VICTORIA.—Last night this Theatre re-opened for the summer season, under a new management, with two "splendid Dramas," as the bills avouched, from the pen of the veteran, W. T. Moncrieff, and the first is described as "new and entirely *original,*" entitled *The Tribute of a Hundred Virgins.* If we recollect the date rightly this piece was originally produced at the Theatre de la Gaiete, in Paris, in June last. At all events Mr. Moncrieff's version is a translation. The second novelty is also described in the bills as "original," and named *The Queen of a Day.* This Drama, which is in three acts, is mostly translated from Scribe's Comic Opera, *La Reine d'un Jour.* Both pieces have been carefully got up with regard to scenery, &c. and will, we trust, bring more grist to the mill than recent performances at this house have done. The scene of *The Tribute of a Hundred Virgins* is laid in Spain, and the plot turns on an ancient contract which Spanish monarchs were once compelled to fulfil at given periods, viz. the presenting of a Hundred Virgins to the Moorish Caliphs.

The Queen of a Day is of a more amusing nature. The plot principally turns on the fortunes of a young *Modiste,* Madlle. Francine Camozot, whose dreams are allied to Louis d'or, laces, jewels, and carriages. Her lover, Marcel, a young soldier, has nothing to offer but a faithful heart; this is not sufficient to a young lady who is ambitious and fortune-hunting. The period of the Play passes some years after the death of Charles I. and naturally of a curious disposition, Mdlle. Francine gets acquainted with a political party, whose design it is to accomplish the restoration of Charles's son, and under the guidance of a Portuguese nobleman, after a variety of intricate circumstances, too numerous to detail here, the young *modiste* finds herself in England, where she is mistaken for the Queen of Charles II., whom it will be remembered

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was a Portuguese Princess. Her situation is a most pleasing one, and just suited to her ambition. She is surrounded by homage, and fawned on by all, for one day. The Jacobite constables, however, form a plot to seize her, and she is thrown into prison by them, and even her life is in danger, when she is released by the Marquis d'Elvas, who announces the complete restoration of the King. She receives a good sum of money for her personation of the Queen, and marries her devoted Marcel in the end. This is not one quarter of the plot, for which not having requisite space to do justice to, we refer our readers to the Theatre.—The house was respectably filled.

Fashionable Lounges.

To the Editor of The Theatrical Observer.

Dear Mr. Editor.—Just wish to say a word—beg pardon, but will you excuse me—I have to mention that I've arranged so as to rub shoulders with my friends and the fashionable world at one or other of the *Grand Lounges* about town :—

Monday, stroll'd to Madame Tussaud's elegant Exhibition, Golden Corinthian Saloon, Baker-st., Portman Sq.—Just added to their unrivalled collection, the splendid full length figures of Her Majesty the Queen, in her Windsor uniform, and Prince Albert in his military costume, also the group of John Knox, reproving Mary Queen of Scots, consisting of Mary, Elizabeth, Henry VIII, Luther, Calvin, and Knox, in magnificent costumes.

Tuesday, I am to be found at the Royal Diorama, Regent's Park, admiring the two splendid Paintings by Le Chevalier Bouton, representing *The Coronation of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, in Westminster Abbey*, and the *Interior of the Church of Santa Croce*, at Florence, with all the effect of light and shade, from noon till midnight. This Exhibition is always crowded with fashionables.

Wednesday, pop into the Cosmorama Rooms, to admire a most interesting Exhibition of East and West Indian Fruits of natural size, hanging to the branches and trunks of the trees, pictorially represented,—truly beautiful.

In my way from the Theatre, drop into the *Harmonic Meeting*, held at Evans's Grand Hotel, King Street, Covent Garden,—quite delighted with the excellence of the singing, commences every evening at ten o'clock. When Mrs. P. is out of town, stay a week, and only pay a guinea for bed and breakfast. I'm always to be found on Saturday, at half-past five, at the Convivial Dinner held here.

Thursday, pay a visit to the Somerset Gallery, Strand, next to Somerset House, to witness *The Industrious Fleas* go through their extraordinary performance of dancing, riding, driving, &c. also two Fleas deciding an affair of honour sword in hand. I then visited the Royal Glass Working Exhibition, paid only sixpence for admission, and received an article in return.

"All good *spirits* come to my *Beck*," at his Dr. Johnson's Tavern, Bolt Court, Fleet Street—where you meet excellent company—capital fare at *fair* prices—delightful singing—(commences every evening at a quarter to nine,) cigars, billiards, good beds, and an enticing bill of fare.

On the same day, paid a delightful visit to *The Typorama*, Quadrant, Regent Street, a large and accurate modelled view of *The Undercliff of the Isle of White*, constructed by L. L. B. Ibbotson, sq.

Afterwards called at Emmett's, 27, Holborn Hill, to view his Novel Pen Maker by which any one can make a superior Pen in less than one minute—also his much improved Needle Threader, to enable Ladies, whose sight is impaired to thread their needles with the greatest ease—a most ingenious contrivance.

Went to visit some country cousins, found them at Blake's Tavern, King William Street, West Strand, quite surprised at the excellence of their fare, and cheapness of their beds, wines, spirits, and accommodation. On a Saturday evening there is a highly respectable convivial meeting held here, which commences at 9 o'clock.

"Why are my eyes like Balfe's Opera of *The Maid of Artois?*" "Because they've got the *Light of Other Days* in them!" through trying the efficacy of Grimstone's Herbacious Eye Snuff—a 2s. 4d. & 1s. 3d. Canister restored my visual organs—quite a miracle—left off my spectacles.—Bought at 39, Broad-st, Bloomsbury—have a care to the inventor's signature—and that it is patronized by the Royal Family and authorized by her Majesty's Treasury on each canister.

On Saturday, I examine *Miss Linwood's* curious Needle Work, Leicester Square—just added other beautiful specimens of her art.—But I intrude—beg pardon—Your's &c.—PAUL PRY.

Theatre Royal, Covent Garden.

This Evening, Shakspeare's Comedy, (with Music by Horne) called The

Merry Wives of Windsor

Sir John Falstaff, Mr BARTLER, Justice Shallow, Mr F. MATTHEWS
Abraham Slender..Mr C. MATTHEWS, Mr Ford..Mr COOPER,
Mr Page..Mr DIDDEAR, Fenton..Mr W. HARRISON,
Dr Caius..Mr J. BLAND, Sir Hugh Evans..Mr MEADOWS.
Host of the "Garter,"..Mr GRANBY, Pistol..Mr M'IAN,
Nym.....Mr W. H. PAYNE, Bardolph..Mr AYLIFFE,
Mrs Ford..Mrs NISBETT, Mrs Page...Madame VESTRIS.
Anne Page..Miss RAINFORTH, Mrs Quickly..Mrs C. JONES.

After which, (20th Time) a New & Original Grand Comic, Romantic, Operatic Melo-Dramatic, Fairy Extravaganxa, in 3 parts, entitled The

SLEEPING BEAUTY

IN THE WOOD.

Scenery by the **Messrs. Grieve. Music,** by **Mr J. H. Tully**

Part First.—Period, 1583.

The BOUDOIR of the FAIRY BANEFUL,
Nine Thousand Miles North of the Kingdom of Noland.
The Fairy Baneful, Mrs TAYLEURE,
Newspaper Imp, (*not "Printer's Devil,"*) Master FLIGHT,

BANQUET HALL,

Thomas, surnamed "Noddy," (*King of Noland*) Mr J. BLAND,
Queen Serena, (*His Consort*) Mrs MACNAMARA,
Nurse, Mrs EMDEN, Gentleman Usher, Mr RIDGWAY.
Baron Factotum, (*Grand-Lord-High-Everything*) Mr HARLEY
FAIRIES INVITED TO THE BANQUET.
The Fary Antidota, Miss LEE, The Fairy Elegantina, Miss PHILLIPS

Part Second.—Period, 1601.

VESTIBULE IN THE ROYAL CASTLE.
The Lady Aurora Abigail (1st of the *Bedchamber*) Miss RAINFORTH
APARTMENT OF THE PRINCESS,
The Princess Is-a-belle, (*aged* 18, *all but an hour*) Mad. VESTRIS,
La Cachoucha, by Mademoiselle MARIA LUIGIA BETTONI.

Lobby & Lumber Room at the Top of the Castle.

THE STATE BED CHAMBER.

Part Third.—Period, 1701.

Larry O'Clog, } *Wood Cutters,* { Mr BROUGHAM,
Colin Clamp, } { Mr KERRIDGE,
Prince Perfect, Mr J. VINING,
MAGIC FORREST.
Castle Gates. Moat and Drawbridge. Old Palace Yard.
A QUICK - SET Hedge,
And a MERRY Green Wood, in the SPRING time of the Year.
THE STATE BED CHAMBER, (exactly as before)
Person-ages "In Statu Quo"—Though a Century Older.
Ex-King of Noland. (aged 160) Mr J. BLAND,
Ex-Queen of ditto, (aged 150) Mrs MACNAMARA,
Lord Factotum, (aged 140) Mr HARLEY,
Lady Aurora Abigail, (aged 120) Miss RAINFORTH,
The Princess Is-a-belle, [still,] (aged 118) Mad. VESTRIS,
Illuminated Palace and Gardens, of the Fairy Antidota,
Mademoiselle LUIGIA BETTONI,
Will Dance **"LA CRACOVIENNE."**
Departure of the Seven Faries, in a Patent "Safety Fly."

Theatre Royal, Hay-market.

This Evening, (first time,) the New Farce of The

Place Hunter!

Adrian Colbert. . Mr J. WEBSTER,
Uncle Noset..... ....Mr STRICKLAND,
Renard, Mr WRENCH,
An Unknown Friend .....Mr O. SMITH,
Pierre, Mr Clark, Blaise, Mr Bishop, Mayor, Mr Gough
Madame Renard, Miss CHARLES,
Babille, Miss P. HORTON, who will introduce a new Song, called "Oh! you naughty, naughty men!"
Madame Colbert, Miss TRAVERS.

After which, (6th Time) a New and Original Farce, in Two Acts, (by the Author of "His Last Legs," &c.) called The

Irish Attorney;

Or, Galway Practice in 1790.

Pierce O'Hara, (the Irish Attorney) Mr POWER,
Jacob Wylie (a Yorkshire Attorney, his Partner,) Mr STRICKLAND
Hawk, (their Clerks,) Mr OXBERRY,
Saunders, (their Clerks,) Mr CLARK,
Charlcote, (a Young Fox Hunter) Mr WORRELL,
Maldon, (his Friend) Mr HOWE,
Fielding..... (his Rival) .....Mr CAULFIELD,
Miss Charlcote, Miss TRAVERS,
Sally.....Miss MATTLEY.

To be followed by, (20th Time) a New Farce, called

How to Pay the Rent.

Mr Miller, Mr STRICKLAND,
Morgan Rattler .... Mr POWER,
Star-the-Glaze, Mr GREEN, Blowhard, Mr GOUGH,
Shooter.....Mr CLARK, Swell Billy....Mr CAULFIELD,
Snuffy, Mr SANTER, Porter, Mr BISHOP,
Mrs Conscience, Mrs W. CLIFFORD,
Kitty....Mrs F. MATTHEWS, Betty....Miss GROVE.

To conclude with, a Farce, called

My Wife's Mother

Uncle Foozle, Mr STRICKLAND,
Mr Budd, Mr W. LACY, Mr Waverly, Mr WORRELL,
Thomas, Mr T. F. MATHEWS,
Mrs Quickfidget ..... Mrs GLOVER,
Mrs Budd, Miss CHARLES, Cook, Mrs GALLOT,
Mrs Fitzosborne, Miss TRAVERS.

To-morrow, Hamlet, the Irish Attorney, and other Pieces.

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